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# Cyrano de Bergerac

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TAYLOR UNIVERSITY'S

# *Mitchell Theatre*

PRESENTS

Taylor University Theatre  
presents

## CYRANO DE BERGERAC

BASED ON THE TRANSLATION WRITTEN BY  
ANTHONY BURGESS OF THE PLAY WRITTEN  
BY EDMUND ROSTAND



The International Anthony Burgess Foundation  
c/o DAVID HIGHAM ASSOCIATES LTD.

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## ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

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When Edmond Rostand was growing up in France in the late 1800s, he watched his father and mother, both artists, have to put their art on the back burner to focus on career. This shaped Rostand's view of what is important in life, and he began a lifelong search for the ideal...to him, being able to make a life out of ones art. He began writing plays, having some success, but it wasn't until he discovered a man who lived in 1600s France that his life changed. Cyrano de Bergerac had a very similar search in his life. They both believed that the journey towards an ideal is what matters most. More important even than

ever reaching that goal. Using Cyrano's real life events and his own views on love, beauty, and what matters most in life, Rostand created the Cyrano we know today. The play took France by storm and quickly was translated into English, German, Russian, and other European languages and spread around the world. It sparked a renewed interest in dramatic verse and Rostand's play took its place among one of the greatest pieces of literature ever written.

I have been drawn to this play for years. The combat and commedia-influenced characters are obvious draws for me, but more than anything, I believe the conversation of what matters most in our lives is important for anyone to consider. Whether we choose to put our focus on love, beauty, faith, loyalty, art, money, career, family or anything else, it is a decision we all must make. What matters most? What really is beauty? How do we view ourselves? As an audience member, we are drawn into Cyrano's lifelong attempt to balance love, honor, loyalty, and self.

While the social settings have changed, and the idea of nobility getting to be rich, vain and "beautiful" while the rest of us work every day to try and catch a break seems distant, not much has actually changed. We may not use terms like nobility or marquis or baron, but there are very much still divisions in social classes and how they view life. While we watch Cyrano's story unfold on stage, we get to decide what is important to us and what matters most in our relationships with other people. In that aspect, this play is as relevant as any set in modern times.

I'm thrilled to be able to bring so many of my loves and interests together in this one production. We had a class last semester about commedia del'arte and stage combat. This show allows all of those students who participated in that course to display those skills while being exposed to one of the greatest works of literature ever written. Swords, combat, food, love, and comedy. What more could one ask for in an evening of entertainment?

*I want to thank Tracy Manning for trusting me enough to step into the role of director for this show. God brought me to Taylor 6 years ago for reasons I couldn't understand at the time, but it has become overwhelmingly and incredibly obvious since. I never could have dreamed of a work situation better than getting to team up with Tracy. She has walked alongside me through this*

*process, spoken wisdom into the production, and prayed for and encouraged everyone involved. Without her love and support, this may have been possible, but would not be the show it is today...and definitely would not have been as enjoyable.*

*--Terrance Volden*

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## SCENIC DESIGN CONCEPT

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Erin Gautille - Scenic Designer

Erin is a 2017 graduate of the Taylor Theatre department. She lives in Bloomington and works as a technical director for Cardinal Stage Company and is a freelance designer. She is so happy to have had this opportunity to come back and work with wonderful people and tackle this beautiful piece of literature.

When doing research for this time period, paintings become very important. They are the only way we have of seeing how the world was. There is a certain romance to the fading and cracking of antique paint. The original beauty has been disguised by hundreds of years of dirt grime and age. Beauty is a constantly discussed theme in this play. What does it mean to have exterior beauty and ugliness and how does that influence the soul residing inside. Each character peels back layers of who they are to expose the true them that society may have “plastered over” and hidden.

For a show like this, the way that the actors interact with their world is extremely important. I wanted to give these actors a place to play and explore that could transform into locations all across France. They need levels to explore that were not so specific as to limit the way they could be used. They can jump, sit, climb, swing and fight in all of the spaces.

Stairs represent a journey or personal growth and change. We were really inspired by the twisting and turning of the staircases in the painting “relativity” by M.C. Escher. The characters, especially Cyrano finds himself faced with choices that could lead him down a myriad of paths which weave together his complex life.

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## LIGHTING DESIGNER

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Conner Reagan

Conner is a freelance scenic/lighting designer for theatre, opera, and dance. Originally from Indianapolis, IN, he studied technical theatre at Taylor University. Conner is a company member of New City Players in Ft. Lauderdale, FL. Previous lighting credits include *Oklahoma!* (Taylor Theatre), *Night Watch* (Taylor Student-directed), and *Gianni Schicchi* (Taylor Lyric Theatre). Assistant design roles include *The Matchmaker* (Terrance Volden, Taylor Theatre), *True West* (Ryan Maloney, New City Players), and *The Nutcracker* (Cory Rodeheaver, Champaign-Urbana Ballet).

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## STAGE MANAGER & ASSISTANT TO THE DIRECTOR

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Brielle Fowlkes - Stage Manager

Brielle is a sophomore Musical Theatre major from Muncie, IN. She is pursuing a BFA and brought her talent to the Taylor University stage in *When the Rain Stops Falling* (Older Gabrielle Understudy), last season and in *Clybourne Park* this fall. Her other performance credits include *The Wizard of Oz*. She'd like to thank Jesus, her mom, and her Taylor family.



Erin Davis - Assistant to the Director

Erin is a senior Vocal Performance major from Upland, Indiana studying under Dr. Patricia Robertson. She has been a part of Taylor Theatre and Taylor Lyric Theatre since 2014. Since coming to Taylor, she has had roles in *Dido and Aeneas*, *Working*, *The Marriage of Figaro* (Marcellina), *The Childrens' Hour* (Lily Mortar), and *Gianni Schicchi* (Nella). As well as acting on the stage, Erin has served on production staff for several productions. She was the Properties Master for Lyric Theatre's *Amahl and the Night Visitors*, *Working*, and *Gianni Schicchi*. She has also been the Assistant Music Director for *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Oklahoma!*. Erin would like to thank Terrance Volden for his constant guidance and mentorship throughout this process.

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## PRODUCTION INFORMATION

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For our production, we have chosen to implement the convention of pants roles, or more historically known as breeches roles. This practice began in operas in a time when roles had been written for castrati, but men could no longer sing them. In order to do the operas still, mezzo sopranos were cast to play the boys so the music would not have to be rewritten. They would put breeches on the girls and tuck their hair into hats. This practice became common in theatre as well and while not practiced as often now, I felt it important to expose our students to the practice. The idea was born out of the possibility of not having enough men audition, but we decided even before auditions to adopt the convention and run with it. I never wanted to just put girls in pants and pretend they are guys. We still worked to create believable characters. Rambunctious adolescent pickpockets, cooks, pastry chefs, shepherds and musicians. They have taken every role seriously and I'm pleased to see them willfully step into a practice that may not be very common today, but is a part of theatre and opera history that cannot be ignored.

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## DRAMATURG

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We talked about many concepts during the process of putting together this show, but only one sits at the heart of it, posing itself as a single question: What is beauty? The conversation about this question started during our initial table work and has continued all the way up to the performances.

This play takes place in the mid-1600s, a time when the poor were very poor, and the rich were very rich. This helped to cultivate a climate that had very different ideas of beauty. Some people valued knowledge and wit. Some, like the nobility, believed that beauty was a physical thing that took both being born in the right circumstances and many hours of cultivation. This was the basis for our initial conversation, where we asked the members of the cast to think about which end of the spectrum their character was on. While we had a few who landed firmly on one side or the other, most ended up in the middle. Over time, as they got to know their characters more intimately, we began to see the class differences, “sides” so to speak, appear on stage, creating a world that echoes that of true 1600s France.

This time and place, who had a class of nobles who existed to be beautiful, can seem very much like a situation of the past. We live in a world where everyone is equal and beauty in all of its many forms are celebrated. However, the more I ponder on the world we live in, the more I come to realize that we are in a culture that is much the same. We also have a class of people who exist to be beautiful, without much else to them. Names like Ryan Seacrest and Kim Kardashian immediately come to mind. We also have people in our lives who refuse to engage with people like this and the TV shows you see them on because there’s no depth to these people. While our society openly values both depth of character and a beautiful physical form, those divisions are still very much present.

So, as you watch this show, enjoy the jokes and the costumes and the sword fights. But don’t forget to engage with the very heart of this play. Don’t shy away from asking yourself and those you came with what beauty really means. Take this show home with you, chew on it, engage with it. Then come back for the next show and explore some new ideas with us.

*--Erin Davis*

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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Linda Toney  
Taylor University Facilities Services

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## CAST

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Cyrano de Bergerac	*Sean Sele
Roxane	Madeline Logan
Christian de Neuville	John Broda
Comte de Guiche	Jed Barber
Le Bret, Carbon de Castel Jaloux	Steven Mantel
Roxane's Duenna/Sister Marthe	Hannah-Kate Fox
Ragueneau	*Andrew Davis
Lise/Mother Marguerite	*Grace Foltz
Ligniere Theophraste Renaudot Spaniard	Daniel McHenney
Vicomte de Valvert	Brandt Maina
Marquis de Cuigy Spanish Officer	*Bradley Jensen
Musketeer	Ty Kinter
Montfleury Poet 1 Cadet 1	*Andrew Baker
Drunkard Poet 3 Another Marquis Cadet 8	Josiah Greiner
Another Musketeer Poet 2 Cadet 2	Gardner Stewart
Flunkey 1 Bellerose 2nd Cook Spaniard	Gabe Engel
Flunkey 2 Jodelet Cadet 3 Capuchin	Andrew Wulf

Pickpocket Pastrycook Apprentice Spaniard	Evangeline Bouw
Page Cook Spaniard	*Suzie Quinn
Page Cook Spaniard	Kelly Abraham
Citizen Nun 2	Victoria Koro
Citizen's Daughter Spaniard	Laura Jeggle
Foodseller Nun 1	Abigail Roberts
Flower Girl Customer Sister Claire	*Sarah Dodd
Precieuse Spaniard	Emma Wagoner
Precieuse Spaniard	Liz Carrier
Flutist Bertrandou	Clara Loisch
Violinist	Isabel Cook

## SETTING

Act I Paris, 1640 - A theatre

Act II Ragueneau's shop, the next morning

Act III Outside Roxane's house, one night soon after

## Intermission

Act IV Battlefield at the siege of Arras, France

Act V Paris, 1655 – Convent of the Ladies of the Cross





### **Sean Sele**

Sean is a senior Theatre Arts major from Portland, OR. His recent Taylor Theatre credits include: *Clybourne Park*, *The Matchmaker*, Taylor Playback Theatre, *Antigone* (2017 Irene Ryan Nominee, KCACTF), *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *The Marriage of Figaro*, *The Arab-Israeli Cookbook*, *I Love a Piano*, and *Servant of Two Masters*.



### **Madeline Logan**

Madeline is a freshman Musical Theatre major pursuing a BFA and is from Wichita, KS. At Taylor she has performed in the *Moments* dance production and worked backstage as a dresser for *Clybourne Park*. She would like to thank her parents and her Savior.



### **John Broda**

A junior from Spring Arbor, MI, John is pursuing a BFA in Musical Theatre. He has performed in Taylor Theatre's *Oklahoma!* and *The Matchmaker* and Taylor Lyric Theatre's *Gianni Schicchi*. John's other theatre credits include *Annie* (Bert Healy), *Picnic* (Alan Seymour), *The Sound of Music* (Rolf), *Godspell* (Jesus), and *You Can't Take It With You* (Ed). He would like to thank his family for their constant love and support.



### **Jed Barber**

Jed is a freshman History major and Theatre Arts minor from Auburn, IN performing in his first show at Taylor. Past theatre credits include *The King and I*, *Our Town*, *Annie Get Your Gun*, and *Brigadoon*. He would like to thank his mom for sparking his love of theatre.



### **Steven Mantel**

Steven is a sophomore Musical Theatre major from Bartlett, IL. His past Taylor Theatre credits include *Oklahoma!* (Jud), *The Matchmaker* (Cabman), and *Clybourne Park* (Russ/Dan). He'd like to thank his family, friends, and the whole Taylor Theatre clan.



### **Hannah-Kate Fox**

Hannah-Kate Fox is a junior English Creative Writing major from West Des Moines, IA. This is her first production at Taylor. Past theatre credits include *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* (Veruca Salt), and *Alice in Wonderland* (Mock Turtle). She would like to thank her “friends, floor, and family for supporting me and putting up with years of drama. Special thanks to my big sister for introducing me to theatre.”



### **Andrew Paul Davis**

Andrew is a senior from Fort Lauderdale, FL studying Film, Theatre Arts, English, and Philosophy. His Taylor credits include *Kiss Me Kate*, *The Cherry Orchard*, *The Miracle Worker*, *A Piece of My Heart*, *Rabbit Hole*, *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*, and *Antigone*. This summer, he played Austin in *True West* with Taylor alumni Tim Davis and Ryan Maloney for the Fort Lauderdale-based New City Players. He thanks Tracy Manning for her tireless dedication in bringing great plays to this community, her mentorship, and friendship. Andrew is honored to take his final bow with Taylor Theatre, the hidden gem of central Indiana.



### **Grace Foltz**

Grace is a senior Theatre Arts major from Matthews, NC. Her Taylor credits include *Clybourne Park*, *When the Rain Stops Falling*, *Antigone*, *The Marriage of Figaro*, and *The Arab-Israeli Cookbook*. She would like to thank “my mom and dad for their incredible support. My siblings for their love and laughter. Tracy and Terrance for giving me these opportunities and for believing in me.”



### **Daniel McHenney**

Daniel is a sophomore undecided major from Wheaton, IL. He’s participated both on and off-stage in many Taylor Theatre productions including *The Matchmaker*, *Clybourne Park*, and, next semester, *The Pirates of Penzance*. He’d like to thank “Tracy, Terrance, my brother, my sister, my mom, my dad, my grandparents, my cousins, my aunts, my uncles, God, my professors, my friends, the other members of this play, and the audience.”



### **Brandt Maina**

Brandt is a sophomore Musical Theatre major. He is pursuing a BFA and is from Nairobi, Kenya. His past Taylor Theatre credits include *Antigone*, *Oklahoma!*, *When the Rain Stops Falling*, and *Clybourne Park*. He’d like to thank “Master Terrance for teaching me how to sword fight and Matthew Parks for cutting my hair.”



### **Bradley Jensen**

Bradley is a junior Theatre Arts major from Alexandria, IN. He has worked on various Taylor Theatre productions both on and off-stage, including *Clybourne Park*, *The Matchmaker*, *When the Rain Stops Falling*, *Gianni Schicchi*, *Nightwatch*, *Oklahoma!*, *Working*, and *Antigone*.



### **Ty Kinter**

Ty is a senior Musical Theatre major pursuing a BFA and is from Pittsburgh, PA. Some of his recent theatre credits at Taylor include *Night Watch*, *Fools*, *Oklahoma!*, *Antigone*, *12 Angry Jurors*, *Boys Next Door*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Clybourne Park*, *Moments*, and Taylor Lyric Theatre's *Gianni Schicchi* and *Working*.



### **Andrew Baker**

Andrew is a sophomore Musical Theatre major earning a BFA from Northbridge, MA. At Taylor, he has performed in the *The Matchmaker* (Barnaby), *Gianni Schicci*, and *Oklahoma!*. Past theatre credits include *The Wizard of Oz* (Scarecrow) and *Peter Pan* (Peter). He'd like to thank his parents, Lisa Scarlett, and Mary Dykstra.



### **Josiah Greiner**

Josiah is a sophomore Communication major from Midland, MI. This is his first production at Taylor. Past theatre credits include *Next to Normal*, *High School Musical*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and *To Kill a Mockingbird*. He'd like to thank his family and the B3 Bandits.



### **Gardner Stewart**

Gardner is a senior Music Composition major from Nassau, Bahamas. This is his first production at Taylor University. He'd like to thank "Taylor's Theatre Department for embracing this amateur. Love them and God for life."

**Gabe Engel**

Gabriel is a freshman Music Marketing major from Yorktown, IN, performing in his first show at Taylor University. His past theatre credits include *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*. He'd like to thank his mom for the influence she's had on his life.

**Andrew Wulf**

Andrew is a sophomore undecided major from Columbus, OH. At Taylor he performed in *The Matchmaker*. Past theatre productions include *Godspell*, *Honk!*, and *The Nerd*.

**Evangeline Bouw**

Evangeline is a double major in Theatre Arts and Studio Art from Muncie, IN. Her past Taylor credits include *The Matchmaker* (Minnie Faye), *When the Rain Stops Falling* (Young Elizabeth Understudy), and *Antigone* (Ismene).

**Susannah Quinn**

Susannah is a junior Theatre Arts major from Ft. Lauderdale, FL. She has been a part of many productions at Taylor both on and off stage, including *Oklahoma!*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *The Marriage of Figaro*, *Rabbit Hole*, *Antigone*, and *When the Rain Stops Falling*, for which she served as Assistant to the Director and Dramaturge.

**Kelly Abraham**

Kelly is a sophomore Psychology major from Northville, MI. At Taylor she has stage managed the student directed show *Fools*. Her past stage credits include *Annie* (Grace) and *The Sound of Music* (Maria). She'd like to thank "Vance Maloney for telling the whole class to come see this show."



### **Victoria Koro**

Victoria is a freshman Musical Theatre major pursuing a BFA and is from Traverse City, Michigan. Past theatre credits before Taylor include *Beauty and the Beast* (Mrs. Potts), *Footloose* (Vi Moore), and *The Music Man* (Ethel Toffelmier). She'd like to thank "Kendra and Jenny for leaving food for me when I come back late from rehearsals."



### **Laura Jeggle**

Laura is a freshman Elementary Education major from Columbus, OH. This is her first production at Taylor. Past theatre credits include *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, *Mary Poppins*, *In the Heights*, *The Wizard of Oz*, and *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*. She would like to thank "my parents, my sister, and my awesome friends."



### **Abigail Roberts**

Abigail is a junior from Syria, majoring in Journalism and International Relations. This is her first production at Taylor University. Previous theatre credits include *Peter Pan* and *Little Women*. She would like to thank Karith Magnason.



### **Sarah Dodd**

Sarah is a senior Corporate Communication major from Kansas City. Her past Taylor credits include *The Dining Room*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Oklahoma!*, *The Matchmaker*, and *Moments*. She would like to thank "my sister Megan for being my personal comedian and best friend. Love you, Megan."



### **Emma Wagoner**

Emma is a junior Theatre Arts major from Muncie, IN. At Taylor she has participated on and off-stage in several productions, including *Fools*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and *The Matchmaker*. She has stage managed *Antigone*, *Clybourne Park*, and *The Bear/The Proposal*. She would like to thank "The Bridge, Starbucks, and the Jumping Bean for giving me life."

**Elizabeth Carrier**

Elizabeth is a freshman Journalism major from Granger, IN. Since coming to Taylor she has worked as a costume assistant and dresser for *Clybourne Park* and *Moments*. Past credits include *The Ghost of Chinese Elm* (Ghost), and *Mary Poppins* (Chorus). She would like to thank her mom, dad, and Jesus.

**Clara Loisch**

Kokomo, IN is home to Clara. She is a senior Music Performance major. While at Taylor she has played in the Pit Orchestra for *The Marriage of Figaro*, *Oklahoma!*, and *Amahl and the Night Visitor*, among others. Clara would like to thank God and her parents.

**Isabel Cook**

Isabel is a freshman Public Health major from Pequot Lakes, MN. This is her first show with Taylor University! She'd like to thank her parents and everybody else that supported her in this endeavor.

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## PRODUCTION STAFF

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Artistic and Technical Director.....	<b>*Terrance Volden</b>																
Scenic Designer.....	<b>*Erin Gaultile</b>																
Lighting Designer.....	<b>*Conner Reagan</b>																
Stage Manager.....	<b>Brielle Fowlkes</b>																
Assistant Stage Managers .....	Maddie Dyer Hannah McLaughlin																
Deck Crew.....	Andrew Nevins Tucker White																
Fight Captain.....	<b>Jessica Hofmeister</b>																
Assistant to the Director/Dramaturge.....	<b>Erin Davis</b>																
Master Carpenter.....	<b>* Andrew Baker</b> Ty Kinter John Broda																
Charge Scenic Artist.....	<b>Grace Hester</b> <b>Emma Seeman</b> *Callie Haven *Suzie Quinn Anna Poel																
Properties Master.....	<b>Evangeline Bouw</b> Kenzi Nevins Darah Shepherd Kait Bedel																
Master Electrician.....	<b>AJ Pegues</b> Olivia Chamberlain																
Costume Designer.....	<b>*Bradley Jensen</b> <table><tr><td>Dressers:</td><td>Stitchers:</td></tr><tr><td>Kaila Hernandez</td><td>Victoria Koro</td></tr><tr><td>Josh Teigland</td><td>Liz Carrier</td></tr><tr><td>*Alexis Turner</td><td>Madeline Logan</td></tr><tr><td>*Tamara Peachy</td><td>Hannah-Kate Fox</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>*Sara Bailey</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>*Rachel Erskine</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>Sandra Jensen</td></tr></table>	Dressers:	Stitchers:	Kaila Hernandez	Victoria Koro	Josh Teigland	Liz Carrier	*Alexis Turner	Madeline Logan	*Tamara Peachy	Hannah-Kate Fox		*Sara Bailey		*Rachel Erskine		Sandra Jensen
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	Sandra Jensen																

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## PRODUCTION STAFF

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Sound Technician.....**Grace Rose**

Makeup/Hair.....**\* Grace Foltz**  
Grace Cox  
**\*Alexis Turner**  
**\*Tamara Peachy**

Poster Design & Photography.....**Rachel Kinsel**

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